negotiations with the European Commission (EC) in order to arrive at a new basmati export regime for EU

Human hair export

1966. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether holy shrine of Lord Venkateswara in Tirupati offers more than twenty thousand Kgs. of human hair for export;

(b) whether in the recent past several rabbis (Jewish Priests) issued an edict banning wigs made in India from human hair on religious grounds, and

(c) if so, whether there has been any adverse impact on the export of human hair-wigs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir, there is a possibility of export of 20,000 kgs human hair from Tirupati

(b) yes, Sir, it appears from the local Press Reports of Israel that the Jewish Rabbis of Israel have in the recent past issued edicts banning imports of wigs made of Indian hair on religious grounds;

(c) No, Sir, this will not have any adverse impact on the export of hair from India

Night viewing of Taj Mahal

1967 SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that night viewing of Taj Mahal was discontinued two decades ago and currently entry to Taj Mahal is allowed only from sunrise till sunset;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Archaeological Survey of India has received a proposal from the Government of Uttar Pradesh seeking permission to keep the Taj Mahal open for the visitors at night for five nights a month,

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) Governments reaction thereto?